Rubber Planting Right.

428. ✻MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR (*Karunagapalli* cum *Karthikapalli*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the number of acres for which rubber planting right is allowed for Travancore in 1939—40 ;

(*b*) the number of applications received by Government for the cession of the planting right ;

(*c*) the number of persons to whom such right was ceded ;

(*d*) the highest and lowest number of acres allotted to a single individual ; and

(*e*) the total number of acres of plantations possessed by those to whom such allotments are made ?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) 4,862·30 acres (as per calculation based on 1938 acreage).

(*b*) 8185.

(*c*) Information regarding the number of persons is not available. The total number of permits issued was 1960. In some cases more than one permit has been issued to one individual.

(*d*) The maximum area allotted to a single individual is 50 acres and the minimum area is 1 cent.

(*e*) The plantations possessed by the individual to whom the highest allotment was made are 580 acres in extent.

The plantations possessed by the individual to whom the lowest allotment was made are 20 cents in extent.

Paddy cultivation in Travancore.

429. ✻ MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN (*Kunnatnad* cum *Parur*) : Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have taken any action for increasing the extent of paddy cultivation in Travancore and for increasing the outpnt, and if so, the measures they have adopted ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR (*Director of Agriculture*) : The Department of Agriculture has been popularising improved and scientific methods of cultivation, such as the use of improved ploughs, selected and high-yielding seeds, better manures, etc. A number of demonstrations of the above methods are also being conducted every year on the lands belonging to actual cultivators in order to induce them and their neighbours to adopt similar practices.

A sub-committee of the Board of Agriculture made some investigations about ways and means to increase the area under paddy, and to augment its production.

A Lift Irrigation Committee with a full time Special Officer to carry out their decision is tackling the problem of increasing the output of paddy in the taluks of Kunnatnad and Parur by converting single crop lands into double crop lands with the aid of electrical power for pumping water for irrigation from the Periyar. The experimental cultivations so far done in this connection have been successful.

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